

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1-3, and 7-8, and cancel Claims 9-10, without prejudice (Claims 11-23 having been previously cancelled). Please add new Claims 24-31.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of inhibiting neoplastic cellular proliferation ~~and/or~~ transformation, or both, of a mammalian cell, in vivo, comprising:

delivering to a mammalian cell that endogenously overexpresses PTTG1, a composition comprising an expression vector comprising a promoter and a polynucleotide, said polynucleotide comprising a first DNA segment encoding a mammalian PTTG2 peptide, said polynucleotide being operatively linked to the promoter in a transcriptional unit, said PTTG2 peptide being selected from the group consisting of

(A) a peptide consisting essentially of amino acid residues 1-191 of (SEQ- ID- NO-:64) or a functional fragment thereof comprising at least amino acid residues 1-180 of (SEQ- ID- NO-:64); and

(B) a mammalian PTTG2 peptide having at least about 95% sequence homology with any of (A),

said expression vector being complexed with a cellular uptake-enhancing agent, in an amount and under conditions sufficient to enter the cell, such that the PTTG2 peptide is expressed in the cell, whereby neoplastic cellular proliferation ~~and/or~~ transformation, or both, of the cell is inhibited.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide further comprises a second DNA segment encoding an uptake-enhancing ~~and/or~~ importation-competent, or both, peptide segment.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 2, wherein the cellular uptake-enhancing ~~and/or~~ importation-competent, or both, peptide segment is a human immunodeficiency virus TAT-

derived peptide segment, a signal peptide from Kaposi fibroblast growth factor, ferritin peptide, or lactalbumin- α peptide.

4.(Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the cell is of human origin.

5.(Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the cell exhibits neoplastic, hyperplastic, cytologically dysplastic, or premalignant cellular growth or proliferation.

6.(Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the cell is a malignant cell.

7.(Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the the cell is derived from a pituitary cell, a colon cell, a leukocyte, a breast cell, or an ovarian-derived cell.

8.(Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein said uptake-enhancing agent is comprises a polycationic lipid agent.

Claims 9-23 (Canceled).

Please add new Claims 24-31 as follows.

--24.(New) A method of inhibiting neoplastic cellular proliferation or transformation, or both, of a mammalian cell, in vivo, comprising:

delivering, by in situ injection, to a mammalian cell that endogenously overexpresses PTTG1, a composition comprising an expression vector comprising a promoter and a polynucleotide, said polynucleotide comprising a first DNA segment encoding a mammalian

PTTG2 peptide, said polynucleotide being operatively linked to the promoter in a transcriptional unit, said PTTG2 peptide being selected from the group consisting of

(A) a peptide consisting essentially of amino acid residues 1-191 of (SEQ ID NO:64) or a functional fragment thereof comprising at least amino acid residues 1-180 of (SEQ ID NO:64); and

(B) a mammalian PTTG2 peptide having at least about 95% sequence homology with any of (A),

said expression vector being complexed with a cellular uptake-enhancing agent, in an amount and under conditions sufficient to enter the cell, such that the PTTG2 peptide is expressed in the cell, whereby neoplastic cellular proliferation or transformation, or both, of the cell is inhibited.

25.(New) The method of Claim 24, wherein the polynucleotide further comprises a second DNA segment encoding an uptake-enhancing or importation-competent, or both, peptide segment.

26.(New) The method of Claim 25, wherein the cellular uptake-enhancing or importation-competent, or both, peptide segment is a human immunodeficiency virus TAT-derived peptide segment, a signal peptide from Kaposi fibroblast growth factor, ferritin peptide, or lactalbumin- α peptide.

27.(New) The method of Claim 24, wherein the cell is of human origin.

28.(New) The method of Claim 24, wherein the cell exhibits neoplastic, hyperplastic, cytologically dysplastic, or premalignant cellular growth or proliferation.

29.(New) The method of Claim 24, wherein the cell is a malignant cell.

30.(New) The method of Claim 24, wherein the the cell is derived from a pituitary cell, a colon cell, a leukocyte, a breast cell, or an ovarian cell.

31.(New) The method of Claim 24, wherein said uptake-enhancing agent comprises a lipid agent.--.